

IN THE CLAIMS:

The current claims follow. For claims not marked as amended in this response, any difference in the claims below and the previous state of the claims is unintentional and in the nature of a typographical error.

1. (Currently Amended) For use in a wireless network comprising a plurality of wireless communication devices, an interrogating state machine comprising:

a server status store operable to store current server status information for each of a plurality of servers, the current server status information for each server comprising load information for the server and capability information for each server; and

a server assigner operable to collect server status information from the servers, provide triggers to the servers, and to store the server status information in the server status store as current server status information, and to assign one of the servers to host one of the wireless communication devices based on the current server status information, wherein the triggers provided to the servers comprise information related to instructions on under what time-independent conditions to provide the interrogating state machine with updated server status information.

2. (Previously Presented) The interrogating state machine of Claim 1, the current server status information stored in the server status store collectively forming a current system status, the server assigner operable to assign one of the servers to host one of the wireless communication devices based on the current system status.

3. (Original) The interrogating state machine of Claim 1, the server assigner further operable to receive a registration request from the one of the wireless communication devices and to assign one of the servers to host the wireless communication device based on receiving the registration request.

4. (Previously Presented) The interrogating state machine of Claim 1, each of the servers comprising a serving call state control function (S-CSCF), the S-CSCF operable to enable provision of Internet Protocol Multimedia Domain (IPMMD) services for the wireless communication devices that the S-CSCF is assigned to host.

5. (Previously Presented) The interrogating state machine of Claim 1, the server status store comprising a table, the table comprising a server column operable to identify the servers and a first server status information column operable to provide first server status information for the corresponding server identified in the server column.

6. (Original) The interrogating state machine of Claim 5, the table further comprising a second server status information column operable to provide second server status information for the corresponding server identified in the server column, the first server status information comprising load information and the second server status information comprising capability information.

7. (Previously Presented) The interrogating state machine of Claim 1, the server assigner comprising:

a status collector operable to collect the server status information from the servers and to store the server status information in the server status store as current server status information; and

a server selector operable to access the server status store based on receiving a registration request from the one of the wireless communication devices and to select one of the servers based on the current server status information in the server status store, the server assigner operable to assign the server selected by the server selector to host the wireless communication device.

8. (Currently Amended) A wireless network, comprising:

a plurality of servers, each server having a varying server status, the server status for each server comprising load information for the server and capability information for each server, the server statuses of the servers collectively forming a varying system status; and

at least one interrogating state machine operable to receive a registration request from one of a plurality of wireless communication devices and, based on the registration request, to assign one of the servers to host the wireless communication device based on a current system status, the current system status based on the varying system status, wherein the current system status is dynamically updated by information received by at least one of the plurality servers, wherein the at least one of the plurality of servers provides the information to the at least one interrogating state machine based upon at least one trigger provided to the plurality of servers by the at least one interrogating state machine, wherein the trigger defines under what time-independent conditions the plurality of servers provides information to the at least one interrogating state machine.

9. (Original) The wireless network of Claim 8, the interrogating state machine comprising:

a server status store operable to store current server statuses for each of the servers, the current server statuses based on the varying server statuses; and

a server assigner operable to collect the server statuses from the servers, to store the server statuses in the server status store, and to assign one of the servers to host the wireless communication device based on the current system status.

10. (Original) The wireless network of Claim 9, the server assigner further operable to receive the registration request from the wireless communication device.

11. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of Claim 9, each of the servers comprising a serving call state control function (S-CSCF), the S-CSCF operable to enable provision of Internet Protocol Multimedia Domain (IPMMD) services for the wireless communication devices that the S-CSCF is assigned to host.

12. (Previously Presented) The wireless network of Claim 9, the server status store comprising a table, the table comprising a server column operable to identify the servers and a first server status information column operable to provide first server status information for the corresponding server identified in the server column.

13. (Original) The wireless network of Claim 12, the table further comprising a second server status information column operable to provide second server status information for the corresponding server identified in the server column, the first server status information comprising load information and the second server status information comprising capability information.

14. (Original) The wireless network of Claim 9, the server assigner comprising:
a status collector operable to collect the server statuses from the servers and to store the server statuses in the server status store; and

a server selector operable to access the server status store based on receiving a registration request from the wireless communication device and to select one of the servers based on the server statuses in the server status store, the server assigner operable to assign the server selected by the server selector to host the wireless communication device.

15. (Original) The wireless network of Claim 8, further comprising a plurality of interrogating state machines, each interrogating state machine operable to receive a registration request from one of the wireless communication devices and, based on the registration request, to assign one of the servers to host the wireless communication device based on the current system status.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for assigning one of a plurality of servers to host a registration for a wireless communication device, the method comprising:

receiving a registration request from the wireless communication device; and
assigning one of the servers to host the wireless communication device based on a current server status for each of the servers, the current server status for each server comprising load information for the server and capability information for each server, wherein the assignment of one of the plurality of servers is preformed using an interrogatory state machine, and wherein the at least one of the plurality of servers provides the information to the at least one interrogating state machine based upon time-independent conditions defined by at least one trigger provided to at least one of the servers by the at least one interrogating state machine.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, further comprising:
requesting a server status from each of the servers;
receiving server statuses from at least a portion of the servers; and
storing the server statuses as current server statuses.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, further comprising:
accessing the stored current server statuses based on receiving the registration request;
selecting one of the servers based on the stored current server statuses; and
assigning one of the servers to host the wireless communication device comprising assigning
the selected server to host the wireless communication device.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, further comprising:
receiving updated server statuses from at least a portion of the servers; and
storing the updated server statuses in place of the previously stored server statuses as current
server statuses.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 19, further comprising requesting updated server
statuses from at least a portion of the servers.